

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are pending. Claims 1, 3-19 and 21 have been amended. No new matter has been added by virtue of the present amendment. Applicants respectfully request examination and an action on the merits.

The specification has been amended to include an indication of the priority claim.

Claims 4, 6, 7, 9, 10 and 12 have been amended to eliminate the use of multiple dependencies included in the claims as originally filed in the priority application, and dependent claims 3 and 6-19 have been amended to include the conventional article "the" at the beginning of the preamble. Additionally, claims 5 and 7 have been amended to employ proper Markush language in describing the groups of inventive elements recited therein.

Furthermore, claim 7 has been amended to address an inadvertent typographical omission therein. As amended, claim 7 includes "*human papilloma virus type 6, 16 and 18*" (emphasis added) among the listing of viral oncoproteins that may be used in connection with the present invention. Support for this amendment may be found in the specification, for example, at page 8, lines 4-12.

Claim 21 has been amended to include a complete recitation of the validation phase steps set forth in claim 13, as originally filed. Support for this amendment may be found in Applicants' original claim 13.

Applicants believe that the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance, and a favorable action is respectfully requested. If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the

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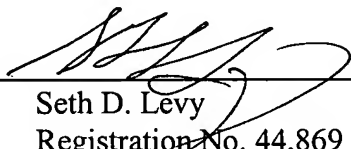
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undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles telephone number (213) 488-7100 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance should the Examiner believe that such a telephone conference would advance prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,
PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP

Date: September 3, 2004

By: _____


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